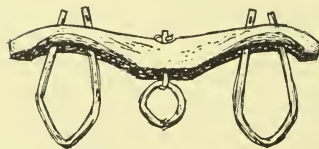


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HISTORICAL
PERSONALITIES
AS VIEWED
BY LEADING
CONTEMPORARY
PSYCHIATRISTS

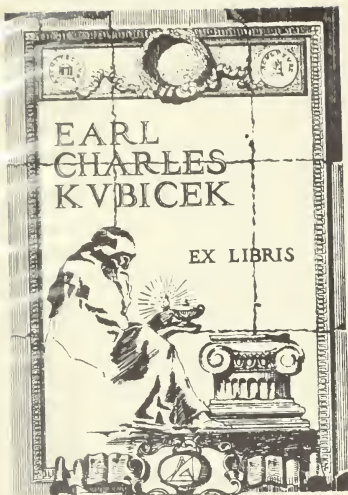
RETROSPECTIVE DIAGNOSES BY

DOUGLAS GOLDMAN, M.D.

NATHAN S. KLINE, M.D.

VERONICA M. PENNINGTON, M.D.

BURTRUM C. SCHIELE, M.D.



THE BACKGROUND OF THIS BOOKLET

The illustrations in this brochure were created as part of a promotional program for TRILAFON, the tranquilizer developed by Schering, and appeared in *The Journal of the American Medical Association*.

Because of the great interest evinced in this series of illustrations Schering is pleased to reproduce them in this brochure which also presents brief analytical personality interpretations.

Schering wishes to thank Doctors Douglas Goldman, Nathan Kline, Veronica Pennington and Burtrum Schiele for their cooperation in making this brochure possible.

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Large format Book

RETROSPECTIVE DIAGNOSES

OF HISTORICAL PERSONALITIES

AS VIEWED BY

LEADING CONTEMPORARY PSYCHIATRISTS

DOUGLAS GOLDMAN, M.D.

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Schering

NERO

NERO (ORIGINALLY NAMED LUCIUS DOMITIUS AHENOBARBUS)

RETROSPECTIVE DIAGNOSIS

Sociopathic personality disturbance, dissocial reaction (formerly psychopathic personality with asocial and amoral trends)

In a short life of 31 years, in a culture characterized by its acceptance of violence and physical excesses, this individual, the last of the line of emperors related to Julius Caesar and Augustus, so horrified the populace and those close to him by the enormity of his conduct that his execution or assassination was prevented only by self-destruction.

The Roman culture of the first century A.D. manifested minimal interest in morality and ethics. It is evident that the background of activity leading to Nero's ascendancy was a fitting gestation for what was to follow. Nero's mother, Agrippina II, was not one to mitigate any excess of aggressiveness in her son or set an example for development of morality or restraint. By scheming and connivance she managed to marry her uncle, the emperor Claudius, arranged to have the daughter of Claudius given in marriage to her son Nero, who was at the time not over 16 years of age, and subsequently arranged for Nero to be adopted by Claudius and to be made the Guardian of Claudius' own son, Britannicus. After thus setting the stage, Agrippina had Claudius poisoned and Nero proclaimed emperor, when he was but 17 years old.

The empire was fortunate for a few years in that Nero was under the control of his preceptors, Seneca and Burrus, who sought to guide him in the management of the state. It was not to be expected, however, that Agrippina and Nero, individuals with violent and unbridled drives, would not come to cross purposes. The murder of Britannicus, his foster brother, under

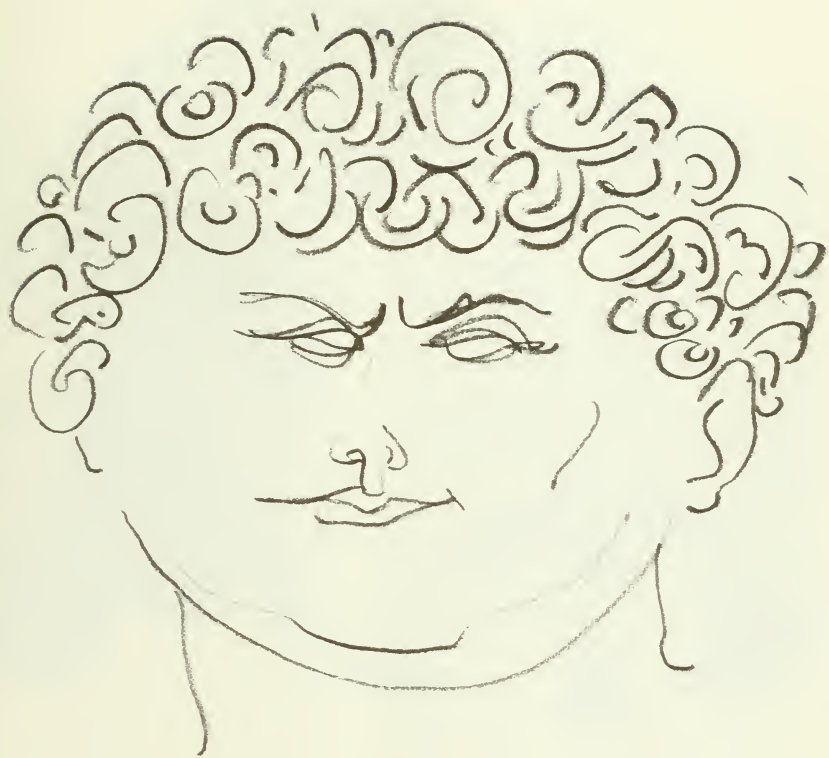
Agrippina's influence, and later Agrippina's murder under the influence of one of Nero's paramours, served only to whet his appetite for blood, as would the first taste of mutton stir the renegade dog.

In the last 8 to 10 years of Nero's reign the influence of the imperial office was given to his wanton pursuit of sensual gratification and to the promotion of grandiose feelings of artistry and athletic accomplishment. Murder was the usual means to eliminate obstructions to his power or to his sexual and other appetites. He is credited with historic arson in the grand manner, the Burning of Rome, to set up an adequate background for what he considered his thespian and musical talents. To cover his own guilt in this excess, he blamed the early Christians and instituted their first persecution.

Following the fire Nero had Rome rebuilt, presumably as a grandiose monument to himself, but like all victims of character disorder he was unable to subordinate his drive for immediate gratification to achievement of more remote goals. His continued intolerable conduct led to intrigue at first and then to open rebellion and a sentence of death. He prevented the legal accomplishment of this sentence by his self-destruction, said to have been carried out by his ordering a slave to stab him.

This is an historic example, therefore, of juvenile delinquency spawned in a pathologic environment, developing into adult criminal behavior and deserving exquisitely the label "asocial and amoral trends."

*Contributed by
Douglas Goldman, M.D.
Clinical Director
Longview State Hospital
Cincinnati, Ohio*



G E N G H I S K H A N

R E T R O S P E C T I V E D I A G N O S I S

Genius

The battle standard of the 9 Yak tails holds no meaning for us, yet 750 years ago it was supreme from the northernmost reaches of Russia to India, from Japan and the China Sea to Poland, Hungary, and Silesia. The greatest land mass ever conquered by one man was ruled—and ruled well—by Genghis Khan. His generals had easily routed three of the greatest armies Europe could muster. Only his death prevented his domain from extending the relatively few remaining miles to the Atlantic. This was no frenetic horde such as Attila the Hun had led but rather an unbelievably disciplined, organized and mobile war machine of perhaps a quarter of a million horsemen whose officers issued weapons only on the eve of battle or during a campaign in order to prevent needless and dangerous brawling.

Men from a hundred races gave faithful service to “the emperor of kings” who had been pursued and almost broken when he became the hereditary chief of a small Asian tribe at the age of 13 after his father was killed. Courage and cleverness combined with patience and persistence made him supreme at the only occupa-

tion deemed respectable for a man of that time. By the standards of his time he was a remarkably honorable man and his code of law, the *Yassa*, outlasted him by generations. So well had he planned, that when he died there was no dissension or splintering; his son and his grandson (Kublai Khan) continued the dynasty. Peace and protection were provided the conquered lands by skilled administrators. Many a learned Mandarin could be found governing a city in Afghanistan or a province formerly inhabited by tribes like the Turks who were driven westward toward Europe.

Genghis Khan devoted himself to dispersing the enemies both within and without his realms, delegating authority and responsibility for civil administration to those who knew how to use it. Although a monotheist himself (the first law of the *Yassa*) he permitted freedom of worship. He broke the vast political and military threat of Mohammedanism but did not prohibit the religion.

This illiterate nomad youth, named Temiyin at birth, became the Genghis Khan—The Perfect Warrior.

*Contributed by
Nathan S. Kline, M.D.
Director of Research
Rockland State Hospital
Orangeburg, New York*



JOHN WILKES BOOTH

RETROSPECTIVE DIAGNOSIS

Paranoia

The great-grandson of John Booth (a silversmith whose family had been driven out of Portugal), grandson of swarthy Richard Booth (lawyer, insane drunkard) and bastard son of Junius Booth (actor, sot, and madman), John Wilkes Booth showed signs of his psychotic inheritance at an early age. His brother Edwin verified this in a letter to a friend: "I can give you very little information regarding my brother John. I seldom saw him since his early childhood in Baltimore. He was a rattle-pated fellow, filled with quixotic notions. While at the farm in Maryland he would charge on horseback through the woods, "shouting" heroic speeches with a lance in his hand, a relic of the Mexican war, given to father by some soldier who had served under Taylor. We regarded him as a good-hearted, harmless though wild-brained boy, and used to laugh at his patriotic froth whenever secession was discussed. That he was insane on that one point, no one who knew him can well doubt. When I told him that I had voted for Lincoln's reelection he expressed deep regret, and declared his belief that Lincoln would be king of America; and this I believe, drove him beyond the limits of reason. All his theatrical friends speak of him as a poor, crazy boy and as such his family think of him."

The visionary experience of his mother when he was six months old suggests ideas of grandeur on her part. She interpreted the fireplace flame in the shape of an arm forming the word "country" and fiery letters spelling out "John Wilkes Booth," as suggesting glory for him.

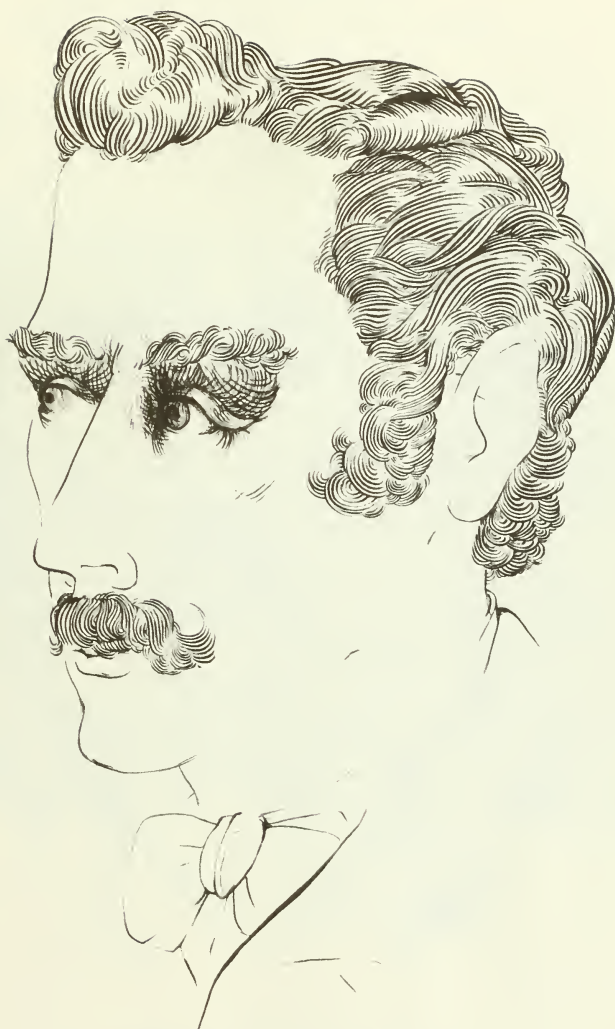
At least three of his seven illegitimate brothers and sisters had shown mental aberrations. He was a cruel child and tortured forest animals, yet he was fanatically sympathetic, weeping at the sight of a dead sparrow. This early indicated his schizoid personality.

His frequent statement "I must have fame! fame!" predicted the enormity of his frustration when his plot to kidnap President Lincoln and thereby make himself famous failed. His paranoid craving for recognition and the delusional ideas of his own abilities and merits drove him on.

The low grade of the associates in his plotting showed his mental deterioration. His self-pluming pride after murdering President Lincoln, "Do you know who I am? Yes! I am John Wilkes Booth, the slayer of Abraham Lincoln," attested to his grandiosity. With maniacal hatred he felt that the victory of the North was Lincoln's personal victory and the condition of the South the result of his persecution. That Southerners considered his action a crime rather than a gloriously courageous act of patriotism surprised Booth.

The intricately complex and slowly developing paranoid system, logically elaborated after a false interpretation of an actual occurrence and accompanied by delusions of his own superior qualities and unique ability, isolated him from a normal stream of consciousness—without hallucinations and with relative intactness and preservation of the remainder of his personality, marks John Wilkes Booth as a case of true paranoia.

*Contributed by
Veronica M. Pennington, M.D.
Visiting Psychiatrist
Mississippi State Hospital
Whitfield, Mississippi*



C A G L I O S T R O

C O U N T A L E S S A N D R O D I C A G L I O S T R O

R E T R O S P E C T I V E D I A G N O S I S

Psychopathic personality, now officially classified as sociopathic
personality disturbance

Psychiatric diagnostic nomenclature cannot convey in its cold and pale terms the flamboyance and color that were characteristic of this classical sociopath. Prince of all confidence men, he flourished in the Age of Reason; during a period of great scientific advance, he sold with great success universal panaceas, love philters, and formulae for the transmutation of base metals to gold. His willing victims were not the poor and ignorant but the great and the highly placed.

He was born Giuseppe Balsamo in Palermo in 1743. His little-known early life included a period in the Monastery of the Benfratelli, during which time he learned the rudiments of chemistry and the apothecary's skill. He was expelled from the Monastery and for a time travelled extensively in the East—Greece, Arabia, Persia, Rhodes—where he no doubt learned the mystical and magical trappings that were later so important a part of his career. He was, at various times, an itinerant painter, a panderer, a forger and an apprentice to a goldsmith.

He married Lorenza Feliciani, and the two travelled about Europe in a grand carriage all black and gold, she as Seraphina and he as the Count Alessandro di Cagliostro, Grandmaster Supreme of the Egyptian Free-Masonry of High Science, and Grand Cophta of

Europe and Asia. In this role he set up Lodges of the Egyptian Free-Masonry in most of the important centers of Europe, enrolling large numbers of paying members. He was several times arrested and faced with such charges as fraud, forgery and sorcery. He was never convicted, usually bringing the influence of his powerful friends to bear on the courts. In 1785 he was implicated in the affair of the Diamond Necklace—one of the last extravagant scandals of the prerevolutionary French Court. He was freed but did not again achieve his former spellbinding influence. Finally arrested in Rome in 1789, he was tried as a heretic and condemned to death. This sentence was commuted to life incarceration, and six years later he died in prison.

We know little of the forces which, in his early life, contributed to his personality disturbance. The hostility which we feel towards scoundrels who "get away" with so much nefarious behavior blinds us to the fact that such persons, in spite of all their successful escapades, do not find the happiness and contentment which reward the common man. With his charm, wit and ingenuity, he could have become a successful, well-accepted, solid and happy person. It is doubtful that his colorful career gave him much real satisfaction.

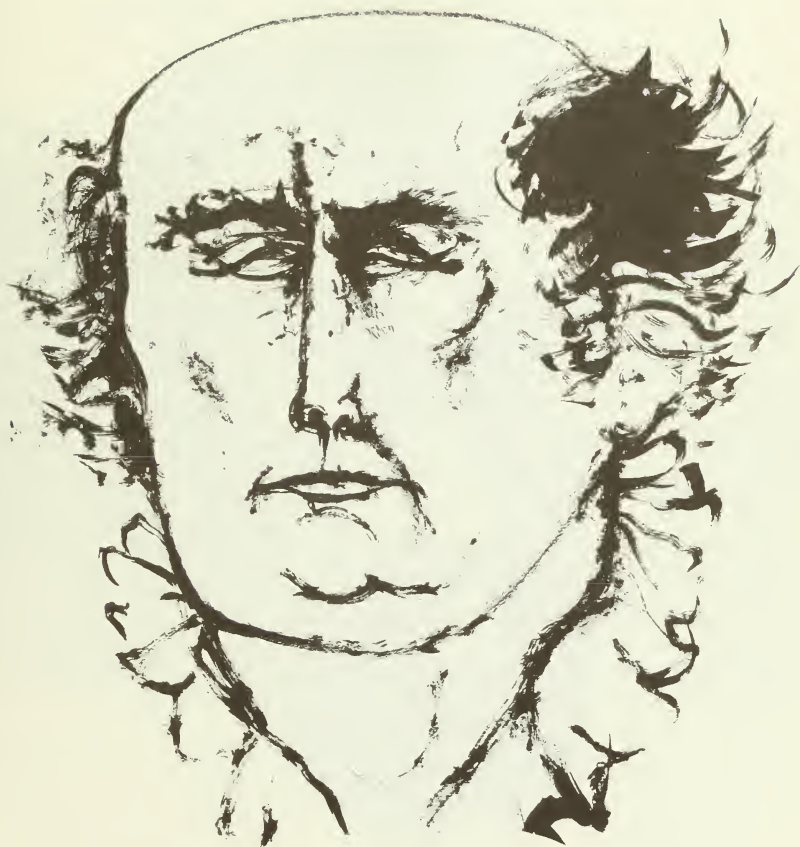
Contributed by

Burtrum C. Schiele, M.D.

Professor of Neurology and Psychiatry

University of Minnesota Medical School

Minneapolis, Minnesota



Alessandro

CESARE BORGIA

RETROSPECTIVE DIAGNOSIS

(Possibly) Personality pattern disturbance, paranoid personality

It is difficult to assess diagnostically the personality of an individual whose cultural *milieu* was so different from the present Western European culture that has produced the discipline of psychiatry from which diagnoses emanate. Machiavelli is said to have used Cesare Borgia for his model of "The Prince" and credited him with qualities of completely unscrupulous opportunism arising always from cold reason and never from passion. Cesare Borgia, under the protection and with the support of his father, Pope Alexander VI, relentlessly pursued the goal of total conquest and union of a large part of what is now Italy and France. In that era murder and assassination were considered a proper means of pursuing political goals, and in such pursuit Cesare Borgia, a paragon of propriety, was able to bring to bear force, influence and intrigue to accomplish his ends.

It is in the grandiose pattern of these activities that there is evidence of pathologic functioning recognizable as such in any age. The implacable stubbornness of the paranoid personality is evident; suspiciousness and jealousy, particularly in relation to an older brother, the Duke of Gandia, whom Cesare Borgia was suspected of murdering, and his heartless treachery in

dealing with opposition and potential enemies bear further witness to the rigid hostility of his personality pattern. The deviant psychosexual make-up often associated with development of paranoid trends is clearly indicated by Cesare's dealing with his sister Lucrezia, particularly by the murder of her husband, a deed otherwise much confused in motive by historians. It was probably because of Cesare's authoritarian and twisted accounts of Lucrezia that she has been so frequently maligned by uncritical historians.

The highly organized drive and determination of an individual such as this may give the impression of a higher level of intelligence than actually exists. It is this defect of paranoid functioning which often leads to its recognition or to the downfall of the structure it succeeds in creating. It would be reasonable to attribute to this deficiency in Cesare's personality the rapid collapse of his conquests following the death of his father, to whose influence much of Cesare's success must now be credited. As is the case with many personality distortions, Cesare Borgia's brief (31 years) but meteoric career must be considered largely a product of his own origin and development and of the age in which he lived.

*Contributed by
Douglas Goldman, M.D.
Clinical Director
Longview State Hospital
Cincinnati, Ohio*



Le Star

R A S P U T I N

RETROSPECTIVE DIAGNOSIS

Psychopath

An exuberance of energy has characterized almost all the "great" of history—the bad as well as the good.

Here we have Rasputin, a man whose vigor carried him from an obscure Siberian village to disputed but effective control over the church, the military and the civil affairs of the largest country in the world. Night-long revels and debaucheries did not disrupt his intense and complex days. Prince Yusupov finally lured him to his palace with the promise of a new conquest and another orgy. Two glasses of wine primed with potassium cyanide had no effect and some cakes underfrosted with more cyanide only made him groggy. Then, shot in the chest, he pursued his assailants, bursting through a locked door. Two more bullets and a heavy instrument to the head supposedly finished him. When his body, with hands and feet bound, was dredged from the icy river it was found he had at last died—of drowning.

Rasputin's uncontrolled lust for life found a most satisfactory outlet (for him) in the Khlysty sect. The

doctrine that repentance first required abasement provided a *raison d'être* for the wildest varieties of drunkenness and copulation—all carried out with religious fervor and blessing. His transcendent faith in his own power and the absolute rightness of all he did combined with a native shrewdness allowed him to view himself as beyond the restraints of petty social conventions which frowned upon systematic murder, seduction and perfidy.

In an age of vacillation and overrefinement of the ruling classes there was great appeal in an unkempt, unwashed peasant "mystic" who brooked no question as to his divine inspiration and political certainty. His hypnotic influence over the hemophiliac Tsarevich Alexis led eventually to his control of the Tsar himself. He effectively disorganized Russia's military potential in the first World War, prevented the country from becoming a constitutional monarchy and behaved otherwise in full keeping with his diagnosis—one of the world's most successful psychopaths.

Contributed by
Nathan S. Kline, M.D.
Director of Research
Rockland State Hospital
Orangeburg, New York



Longman

CATHERINE THE GREAT

OF RUSSIA

RETROSPECTIVE DIAGNOSIS

Compulsive Personality

Sophia Augusta Frederica, Catherine the Great, entered this world in a *milieu* of disappointment because she was a girl. Handed over to a wet nurse, and later from one governess to another because her mother gave her no attention, rarely speaking to her except to reprimand and find fault with her, she intuitively knew the sentiment she later wrote of: "I was merely endured and was often harshly and violently scolded, and not always with justice. I felt this without, however, being quite clear in my knowledge."

Her childhood was unhappy. She had a perpetually unsatiated hunger for love which tormented her the rest of her life and made her thirteen lovers indispensable to her. She nursed a gigantic and secret resentment against her mother and the world. She wanted to be a man, an achievement she accomplished by transvestism as she rode to Peterhof—in the borrowed uniform of a lieutenant in the Life Guards—at the head of her newly acquired troops to secure and safeguard her ascent to the throne.

Betrothal and marriage to a weakling of poor mental and physical stature intensified Catherine's ambition to prove herself desirable and drove her on in hope of recognition and glory. Her worldly ambition made her change her religion and this plunged her into a conflict with her conscience which lost the battle, but the scars of this struggle remained with her throughout life. Her compulsion to achieve fame made her follow the temptings of ambition without regard for her personal comfort and welfare or for the rights and desires of others who stood in her path.

She arose at 5:30 A.M. and worked as long as eighteen hours a day. She loved company but her com-

pulsion made her remain closeted alone in her room with her books for weeks to prove her worth to the Russian people and the Empress Elizabeth.

Her compulsion, when frustrated, drove her to many illnesses and hypochondrias from which she sought relief via frequent blood lettings and long periods in bed.

Her desire to be a man was realized in the vigor of her love of horseback riding and hunting in men's clothing, for which she arose at 3:30 in the morning and often rode as long as thirteen hours. But her thoughts were constantly occupied with the Crown and the succession, her compulsion to attain fame and prove her value to the mother who had rejected her and to the world.

Her inordinate capacity for work is proved by her achievements for Russia, her voluminous writings, many of them fragmentary and on scraps of paper. The inscription she prepared for her gravestone was "Work came easy to her."

Her many lovers never interfered with her compulsion but served it. Because of eighteen years' abuse from her impotent consort her indifference to or condonation of his untimely death can be understood in the light of her compulsion.

Catherine's chronic, excessive and obsessive concern with adherence to standards of conformity characterized her inordinate capacity for work, and her rigidity and lack of normal capacity for relaxation. This together with chronic tensions that led to frequent and long periods of illness were reactions that appeared as persistence of an adolescent pattern of behavior and confirm the diagnosis of compulsive personality.

*Contributed by
Veronica M. Pennington, M.D.
Visiting Psychiatrist
Mississippi State Hospital
Whitfield, Mississippi*



Caterina

ROBESPIERRE

MAXIMILIEN FRANÇOIS MARIE ISIDORE DE ROBESPIERRE

RETROSPECTIVE DIAGNOSIS

Paranoia

Robespierre, the Incorruptible, was born in 1758. His early years were difficult, bringing him poverty, hardship and the early assumption of adult responsibility. His mother died when he was 7, and his father deserted the family when Robespierre, the eldest of four children, was 14.

In school he was proud, industrious and aloof. There is some evidence that he felt injured and wronged. He early identified his cause with that of the oppressed and poor. He showed hypersensitivity of feelings and once resigned a position as judge rather than pronounce a sentence of death. He made Rousseau's ideas his own, believing that man is virtuous by nature and corrupted by an unjust civilization. These ideas and this philosophy grew increasingly rigid. He wrote: "There are but two kinds of men, the kind that is corrupt and the kind that is virtuous."

As his position improved and his power increased, Robespierre came more and more to identify virtue with himself and corruptness with those who opposed him. He early developed the habit of noting in a pocket notebook the names and actions of people who deviated from his concept of virtue. He did not, as is often popularly supposed, originate the Terror, but certainly through his influence and with his oratory he served it, advanced it and led people to believe it to be necessary and praiseworthy. Sentencing others to death lost its repugnance to him. He wrote: "The Terror is nothing but Justice, prompt, severe and inflexible. It is, therefore, the incarnation of virtue."

He became convinced that he was incapable of error and persuaded the Convention to pass the Law of 22nd Prairial (10 June 1794) that made the Tribunal a simple court of condemnation before which no witnesses could be called and from which no appeal was allowed. In the next month over a thousand people were executed on the guillotine, condemned without trial. One of the last of these was Robespierre himself. He was at that time thirty-six years of age.

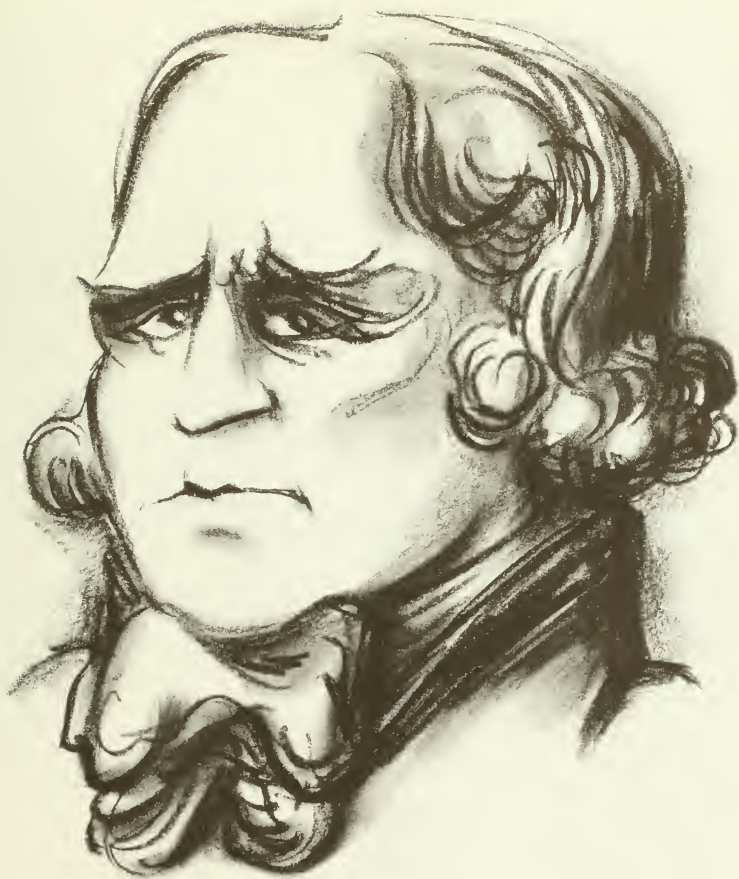
Robespierre was always considered honest, cultured and incorruptible, if somewhat fanatic; his private life was unassailable. He found himself in a position where there were no legal restraints—one system of law had just fallen, and no new one had been set up. Under these circumstances his paranoid tendencies, which previously had appeared only as sensitivity, mild suspiciousness, rigidity and excessive devotion to duty, began to flower. He turned against people who had been friends and close associates. He felt that his aims, the end for which he worked, was the good of France and that any means, however evil, were justified to achieve that goal. He also developed a sort of a religiosity; he persuaded the Convention to pass that peculiar law proclaiming the existence of the Supreme Being, establishing a new state religion and setting aside a grand fete to celebrate it.

There can be little question that Robespierre had a personality distortion, paranoid in type. It seems probable that this had progressed to actual paranoia by the time of his execution.

Contributed by

Burtrum C. Schiele, M.D.

*Professor of Neurology and Psychiatry
University of Minnesota Medical School
Minneapolis, Minnesota*



De Robespierre





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